

REMARKS

Claims 1-95 are pending, with claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 36, 43, 50, 57, 64, 71, 78, and 85 being independent.

Applicant has amended claims 8, 25, 28, 43, 57, 64, 71, and 78 for clarity. It is believed that the arguments presented in applicant's reply of November 8, 2005 with respect to these claims are still relevant to the claims, as amended.

Claim 22 has been amended to recite that the method for manufacturing a semiconductor device includes forming a first conductive film over a substrate, forming a second conductive film over the first conductive film, cleaning a chamber with a plasma generated from Cl₂ or a mixed gas of Cl₂ and a fluorine-based gas, placing the substrate with the first conductive film and the second conductive film into the cleaned chamber, and etching at least the second conductive film in the cleaned chamber.

Claim 22 is allowable over Ye because, as discussed in the reply of November 8, 2005, Ye fails to describe or suggest a substrate having a first conductive film and a second conductive film over the first conductive film placed in a chamber that is cleaned and etching the second conductive film within the cleaned chamber. In Ye, the substrate has a single conductive film such as the aluminum film. See Ye at col. 4, lines 20-24 and col. 9, lines 48-55. Moreover, the claims that depend from claim 22 are allowable for at least the reasons that claim 22 is allowable, as discussed on the reply of November 8, 2005.

Applicant requests allowance of all claims.

Applicant : Satoru Okamoto
Serial No. : 10/689,617
Filed : October 22, 2003
Page : 22 of 22

Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-170001 / US6682

It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this amendment. Nevertheless, please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:December 19, 2005

/Diana DiBerardino/

Diana DiBerardino
Reg. No. 45,653

Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W.
11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

40315637.doc